Governments/Union Territories for implementation of the suggestions made therein.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Institute of Management in Bihar

†2203. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Chief Minister has requested the Central Government to open Indian Institute of Management in Bihar for imparting management studies in the State:

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the above letter;

(c) whether Government propose to open "Indian Institute of Management" in Bihar; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) A request was received from the Chief Minister of Government of Bihar to open an Indian Institute of Management in Bihar for imparting management studies in the State. The matter was examined and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Government of Bihar was informed by the Human Resource Development Minister stating that to begin with, some of the already started national institutes have to consolidate themselves so that students from all over the country, including Bihar, could take advantage of facilities. Further extension of facilities by setting up of new national institutes, with Government funds, could be considered later. There is at present no proposal to establish an Indian Institute of Management in Bihar by the Government of India.

Professional education for weaker sections

2204. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether higher and professional education is getting out of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reach of poor and weaker sections of society, especially those living in far flung and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take some effective and concrete steps to help the people in those areas, in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Computer as means of education

†2205. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to use computer as an important means of education;

(b) if so, whether any perspective plan has been formulated by Government to link present education system to computer literacy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Government have directed Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to acquire computers for their schools. Besides, Government also proposes to extend support to the State Governments/UTs, who have been taking initiatives for introducing computer education in their schools. Under the revised scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS), State Governments/UTs would formulate Computer Education Plans (CEPs) - to draw upon the various items and activities that would include training of teachers, development of softwares and acquistion of hardwares.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.